

Message Text

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47 45

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 DODE-00 NSF-04 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-07 ACDA-19 DRC-01

/105 W

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R 091120Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8978

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS PARIS 11242

DEPT FOR SCI; PASS AEC FOR FRIEDMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN

SUBJECT: U.S. - FRENCH LASER FUSION RESEARCH COOPERATION

1. DIRECTOR OF CEA'S RESEARCH CENTER AT LEMEIL, JACQUESSON, RECENTLY TOLD SCIATT THAT HE AND OTHER CENTER DIRECTORS ARE VERY INTERESTED IN EXPANDING RESEARCH COOPERATION WITH U.S. COUNTERPARTS. DURING A VISIT LAST WEEK BY DR. ALEXANDER GLASS AND SEVERAL COLLEAGUES FROM LIVERMORE LABORATORIES AND DR. ARTHUR GUENTHER, CHIEF SCIENTIST AT THE USAF KIRTLAND WEAPONS LABORATORIES, DR. JACQUESSON SUGGESTED TO SCIATT THAT RESEARCHERS BE EXCHANGED BETWEEN LIVERMORE AND LEMEIL FOR EXTENDED PERIODS, SUCH AS A SABBATICAL YEAR. HE IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN US-FRENCH COOPERATION IN THE USE OF LASERS TO PRODUCE THE HIGH DENSITY PLASMAS NECESSARY FOR BASIC UNCLASSIFIED RESEARCH IN CONTROLLED THERMONUCLEAR REACTIONS. SINCE, IN HIS OPINION, THIS WORK HAS NOT ADVANCED BEYOND THE PRELIMINARY LEVEL, HE HOPES THERE WILL BE FEW POLICY COMPLICATIONS.

2. JACQUESSON RECOGNIZED THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL UNCLASSIFIED

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PRACTICAL PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN PLACING US SCIENTISTS

IN THE LIMEIL LABS WHERE CLASSIFIED WORK IS BEING DONE. FOR EXAMPLE, HE BELIEVES THAT THE FENCING AROUND HIS CENTER WOULD HAVE TO BE CHANGED SO THAT SOME LABORATORY BUILDINGS COULD BE EXCLUDED FROM THE CONTROLLED RESTRICTED-ACCESS AREA.

3. A SENIOR SCIENTIST, DR. FLOUX, TOLD THE LIVERMORE GROUP THAT HE, DR. LANGER AND ABOUT THREE OTHER LIMEIL PHYSICISTS WILL BE ATTENDING A QUANTUM MECHANICS CONFERENCE IN SAN FRANCISCO FROM 10 TO 13 JUNE 1974 AND THAT THEY HOPE TO VISIT LIVERMORE WHILE IN CALIFORNIA. THEY HAVE APPLIED FOR PERMISSION, VIA CEA AND THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, AND ARE NOW AWAITING A RESPONSE.

4. COMMENT: THE LIVERMORE-GUENTHER GROUP SPENT A FULL DAY AT LIMEIL IN A VERY OPEN AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE. THEY RECEIVED DETAILED BRIEFINGS AND DEMONSTRATIONS OF A NUMBER OF EXPERIMENTS UNDERWAY AND TALKED WITH WELL OVER THIRTY SCIENTISTS. MANY FRENCH SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE CENTER STAYED WITH THEM THROUGHOUT THE DAY. IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE HOSTS HAD GONE TO CONSIDERABLE LENGTHS TO ACCOMMODATE THEIR VISITORS.

5. PLEASE ADVISE RE RESPONSE TO DR. JACQUESSON.
IRWIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, LASERS, SCIENTIFIC VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PARIS11242
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740113-0067
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740561/aaaaccja.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCI
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 OCT 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <06 JAN 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. - FRENCH LASER FUSION RESEARCH COOPERA- TION
TAGS: TGEN, US, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005